



MINUTES

Utah Department of Health
Drug Utilization Review Board

Thursday, August 11th, 2016
7:15 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
Cannon Health Building
Room 114

Board Members Present

Jay Aldous, D.D.S

Neal Catalano, Pharm D

Steve Lore, M.D

Holly Gurgle, Pharm.D.

Jennifer Brinton, M.D., Board Chair

Susan Siegfried, M.D

Michael Symond, M.D

Kumar Shah, M.Sc., P.Eng.

Board Members Excused:

Katherine Smith, Pharm D

Ben Berrett, Pharm D

Keith Tolman, M.D.

Dept. of Health/Div. of Health Care Financing Staff Present:

Chad Hope, Pharm.D.

Alyssa Pitts, R.N.

Merelynn Berrett, R.N

Heather Santacruz, R.N.

Bryan Larson, Pharm.D.

Megan Schlappi, C.Ph.T.

Other Individuals Present:

Joanita Lake, UofU*

Joanne LaFleur, UofU

Kelvin Yamashita, Sanofi Genzyme

Michelle Bice, Gilead Sciences

James Gaustad, PPLP

Kenneth King, Roseman University

Aesha Drosdowski, Roseman University

Michael Faithe, Amgen

Charissa Anne, J+J

Laura Britton, UofU Health Plan

*UofU = University of Utah

Meeting conducted by: Jennifer Brinton, M.D.

1. **Welcome & Housekeeping:** Jennifer Brinton opened the meeting and reminded everyone to sign the rosters.
 - a. Robyn Seely asked the board members for their input on any future DUR meeting topics they may want to see reviewed. Neal Catalano suggested mirroring the topics that the P&T board discusses. Kumar Shah suggested reviewing Alzheimer medications.
 - b. Robyn Seely informed the board of the proposed Drug Utilization Review Board By-Laws. She asked the board to look over them and vote on them at the next meeting.

2. **Review and Approval of July Minutes:** Kumar Shah motioned to approve the July minutes. Jay Aldous seconded. All in favor.

3. 9 Month Review: Topical Lidocaine and Movantik: Robyn Seely reviewed clinical prior authorization (PA) criteria that had been created approximately nine months ago by the Board. She said that the PA criteria for these respective medications are working well, guiding drug use to the most appropriate patients. Questions were brought up about the amount of denials on PA's for Topical Lidocaine products since the PA was put in place. Robyn Seely explained that the denials were either because of inappropriate uses with the patches and excess quantities with the liquids. The board will re-review the data/utilization in another 6 months to make sure everything is still working appropriately.

4. Reconsideration of Prior Authorization Criteria: The Board reviewed outdated clinical PA criteria. They motioned to remove the clinical prior authorization criteria for the following medications: Aranesp, Epogen, Neupogen, Neulasta, Leukine, Hepsera, Lactulose, and Trizivir. Mike Symond made a motion to remove the Prior Authorization criteria on these medications. Neal Catalano seconded. All in favor.

5. Short Acting Opioids and Opioid/Acetaminophen combinations: Joanita Lake from the University of Utah Drug Regimen Review Center presented additional drug information from the previous DUR meeting. Data was also presented about the utilization of the drugs in the Utah Medicaid population.

6. Public Comments: N/A

7. Board Discussion:

- a. Robyn Seely informed the board that the Medicaid pharmacy team had recently reviewed the quantity limits on short acting opioids and created a spreadsheet with the new proposed quantity limits based on FDA guidelines and common use. Currently, Medicaid has quantity limits for short acting opioids set at 180 tablets per 30 days for any short acting opioids.
- b. Steve Lore asked what the current process is for a prescription that exceeds the quantity limits.
- c. Mike Symond asked why Methadone was a part of this review as it is typically considered a long acting opioid. Joanita Lake let him know that Methadone was not part of the review, it was just a part of the proposed quantity limits from the Medicaid Pharmacy team. She let him know that Methadone would be part of the review next month when long acting opiates are discussed.
- d. Mike Symond made a motion to discuss quantity limits on Methadone at the next meeting. Steve Lore seconded. All in favor.
- e. Holly Gurgle asked how practical the new quantity limits would be after seeing how many prescriptions could end up denied due to exceeding the quantity limits. Joanita reminded everyone that the data most likely included some cancer patients, who would not be required to follow the quantity limits with a cancer diagnosis code.
- f. Chad Hope let the board know that it is possible to allow members time to taper down to the new quantity limits if desired.
- g. Mike Symond made a motion to allow members 3 months to taper down to the new quantity limits. Jay Aldous seconded. All in favor.
- h. Neal Catalano made a motion to approve the proposed quantity limits on short acting opioids that was put together by the Medicaid pharmacy team. Mike Symond seconded. All in favor.

- i. Jennifer Brinton noted that prescribers play a large part in the opioid epidemic by prescribing too many pills. Mike Symond noted how times have changed, as medications like Ibuprofen used to be the standard of care for an acute injury, not opioids.
- j. Mike Symond suggested that the decisions reached at this meeting should be publicized and that the media should be involved to explain why Medicaid made these decisions. Steve Lore suggested setting up a press release. Chad Hope let everyone know that a press release was not possible, but a letter explaining the board's decisions could be published on the DUR website if the board desired.
- k. Chad Hope reminded the board of the motion they made at the last DUR meeting that an initial fill for a short acting opioid be for a 7 day supply or less. He explained the system edits that were necessary for this motion.
- l. Neal Catalano made a suggestion that we carefully measure our efforts over the next few months to make sure that all of the decisions made by the board were working appropriately and not putting any undo harm on members and providers.

8. Public Meeting Adjourned

9. Next meeting is scheduled for September 8th, 2016. Long Acting Opiates will be discussed.

Audio recordings of DUR meetings are available online at:

<https://medicaid.utah.gov/pharmacy/drugutilizationreviewboard?p=DUR%20Board%20Audio%20Recordings/>